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Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 September 1998, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 55th, 56th, 61st and 62nd meetings, on 10, 11, 25 and 27 May 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/53/SR.55, 56, 61 and 62).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (A/53/791 and A/53/939) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/53/971).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.66

4. At the 62nd meeting, on 27 May, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic" (A/C.5/53/L.66), submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.66 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1159 (1998) of 27 March 1998, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1230 (1999) of 26 February 1999,

Recalling its resolution 52/249 of 26 June 1998 on the financing of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic as at 30 April 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 15.9 million United States dollars, representing 34 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 30 November 1998, notes that some 26 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

[1] A/53/791 and A/53/939.

[2] A/53/971.

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; [2]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

8. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistical support for the Mission shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic the amount of 34,309,800 dollars gross (33,860,700 dollars net) for the operation of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, in addition to the amount of 29,105,850 gross (28,369,350 dollars net) already appropriated under the terms of General Assembly resolution 52/249 and inclusive of the amount of 18,111,200 dollars gross (17,728,700 dollars net) authorized by the Advisory Committee under the terms of section IV of Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

10. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into account the amount of 29,105,850 gross (28,369,350 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of General Assembly resolution 52/249, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 34,309,800 dollars gross (33,860,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1998 and 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

11. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 449,100 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999;

12. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 33,367,875 dollars gross (32,572,675 dollars net) for the operation and liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 1,659,640 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 325,435 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, to be apportioned as an ad hoc arrangement among Member States in

accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A;

13. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 795,200 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;

14. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 1,893,000 dollars gross (1,791,800 dollars net) in respect of the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998;

15. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 1,893,000 dollars gross (1,791,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

16. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedures and practices established by the General Assembly;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic".

Annex

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts payable shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic until payment is effected.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.